

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
NSC-05 L-01 HA-02 NEA-07 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 CU-02
BIB-01 /052 W

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FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3927

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LENINGRAD 00291

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CSCE, SHUM, UR

SUBJECT: HARASSMENT OF JEWISH REFUSENIK ABA TARATUTA

REF: (A) MOSCOW 1061, (B) 77 LENINGRAD 1751 (C) LENINGRAD
1373

1. SUMMARY. POST CAN CONFIRM HARASSMENT (REFTEL A) OF
LENINGRAD REFUSENIK ABA TARATUTA. DURING RECENT VISIT TO
TARATUTA CONGENOFF AGAIN PHOTOGRAPHED. REFUSENIK IL'YA
BEZPROZVANNIY SUBJECTED TO SIMILAR HARASSMENT AND WARNING
NOT TO MEET WITH FOREIGNERS. END SUMMARY.

2. POST HAS LEARNED THAT LENINGRAD REFUSENIK ABA TARATUTA
HAS TWICE BEEN SUMMONED TO KGB HEADQUARTERS IN THE SPACE
OF ONE MONTH. TARATUTA, A MAJOR SOURCE OF NEWS ON THE
FATE OF THE LENINGRAD JEWISH REFUSENIK COMMUNITY FOR PAST
YEAR AND HALF AND PERHAPS ITS COOLEST LEADER, STATED BOTH
MEETINGS WITH KGB DEALT WITH HIS CONTACT WITH FOREIGNERS.
AT THE FIRST MEETING FOLLOWING A VISIT BY CONGENOFF ON
DECEMBER 17, TARATUTA WAS TOLD THAT SINCE HIS REFUSAL OF
EXIT PERMISSION WAS BASED ON HIS KNOWLEDGE OF STATE SECRETS'
HE MUST THEREFORE NOT MEET WITH FOREIGNERS LIKEWISE BE-
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CAUSE OF THOSE SECRETS. IN ADDITION, HE WAS WARNED THAT
IF HE PERSISTS IN SUCH MEETINGS HE WILL RECEIVE A WRITTEN
INJUNCTION FROM THE PROSECUTOR WHICH COULD CONCEIVABLY
LEAD TO PROSECUTION.

3. DESPITE, AND PERHAPS BECAUSE OF, THAT WARNING, TARATUTA
KEPT INVITATION FOR HIS FAMILY TO HAVE CHRISTMAS DINNER

ITH CONGENOFF CLYATT AND FAMILY, AND THEIR ARRIVAL AT IHE CLYATT APARTMENT LED TO THE PHOTOGRAPHING INCIDENT REPORTED REFTEL B. AS A RESULT OF THAT MEETING, TARATUTA WAS AGAIN SUMMONED TO KGB HEADQUARTERS, AND THE WARNING WAS REPEATED. IT WAS AT THIS SECOND MEETING AT WHICH TARATUTA WAS ASKED, AND DECLINED, TO SIGN A STATEMENT THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A WARNING. IT IS REPORTEDLY COMMON PRACTICE FOR KGB TO REQUEST INDIVIDUALS THEY SUMMON TO SIGN STATEMENTS PLEDGING NOT TO TELL ABOUT THEIR QUESTIONING, BUT THE STATEMENT GIVEN TARATUTA TO SIGN APPEARS TO BE OF ANOTHER NATURE.

4. MOST RECENT MEETING WITH TARATUTA ON FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 20 WAS AGAIN SUBJECT TO HARASSMENT. CONGENOFF AND FAMILY WERE PHOTOGRAPHED WHILE ENROUTE TO TARATUTA'S S APARTMENT WITH FLASH EQUIPMENT BOTH IN THEIR CAR FROM ANOTHER AUTOMOBILE AND BY CAMERAMEN ON FOOT AT THE ENTRANCE TO TARATUTA'S APARTMENT BUILDING. DURING THE VISIT, TWO DRUZHINNIKI CALLED ON TARATUTA, OSTENSIBLY TO CHECK ON WHETHER HE IS EMPLOYED. TARATUTA HAS, INDEED, QUIT HIS JOB BUT MANAGED TO HAVE THE FACT REGISTERED ONLY IN HIS LABOR BOOK AND NOT IN HIS PASSPORT.

5. ALTHOUGH HE DISCOUNTS LIKLIHOOD OF PROSECUTION, TARATUTA IS APPARENTLY DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS TREND OF EVENTS. HE NONETHELESS APPEARS DETERMINED NOT TO SUCCUMB TO KGB PRESSURE AND HAS CONTINUED OVER PAST MONTH TO MAINTAIN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH CONGENOFF. LOOKING CONFIDENTIAL

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TO THE FUTURE HE SPEAKS OF HAVING HIS SON MIKHAIL, WHO WILL FINISH SECONDARY SCHOOL THIS YEAR, EITHER APPLY SEPARATELY FOR AN EXIT VISA OR ATTEMPT TO ENTER AN INSTITUTE TO AVOID THE ARMY SERVICE WHICH WILL SADDLE HIM, TOO, WITH THE BURDEN OF SECRECY.

6. TARATUTA REPORTS THAT ONE OTHER LOCAL REFUSENIK, AND REPLIST CASE, IL'YA BEZPROZVANNIY HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO A SIMILAR WARNING AGAINST MEETING WITH FOREIGNERS BECAUSE OF HIS ALLEGED POSSESSION OF STATE SECRETS. BEZPROZVANNIY, A FORMER MARINE ENGINEER AND NOW AN UNPUBLISHED WRITER AND ART CRITIC WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED TO JEWELRY IN THE U.S.S.R. HAS RECENTLY BEEN VERY ACTIVE, SPONSORING AN EXHIBIT OF UNOFFICIAL ART IN HIS APARTMENT AND TAKING PART IN COMPOSITION OF LETTER DETAILING REFUSENIKS' COMPLAINTS TO THE BELGRADE CSCE MEETING (REFTEL C). BEZPROZVANNIY'S SUBSEQUENT CONTACT WITH UPI REPORTER EMIL SVEILIS WAS ALSO OCCASION FOR KGB HARASSMENT. MEN IN A BLACK VOLGA REPORTEDLY PARKED NEAR BEZPROZVANNIY'S APARTMENT DURING HIS INTERVIEW WITH SVEILIS AND TRAINED A BLACK TUBE--PRESUMABLY A DIRECTIONAL MICROPHONE--ON THE APARTMENT WINDOW. POST HAS NOT HAD CONTACT WITH BEZPROZVANNIY FOR

SOME TIME AND INTENDS TO PAY HIM A CONSULAR VISIT IN NEAR FUTURE AS PART OF PROGRAM OF KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH REPLIST AND CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST CASES.

7. OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN LENINGRAD REFUSENIK COMMUNITY SEPTEL.

8. I AUTHORIZED CLYATT TO VISIT TARATUTA ON GROUNDS THAT THERE HAS BEEN LONGSTANDING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO FAMILIES, MEETING IN HIS OWN APARTMENT WAS DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE ON THIS OCCASION, AND TARATUTA IS UNIQUE SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON REFUSENIK COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE HAVE CONTINUING INTEREST. CLYATT HAS BEEN TOLD, HOWEVER, HE SHOULD NOT SEE TARATUTA FOR SOME TIME, AND NEXT MEETING SHOULD ONLY BE IN OFFICER'S APARTMENT, AND WITH MY APPROVAL. OBVIOUSLY,

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 LENINGRAD 00291

LIMDIS

WE MUST WALK LINE BETWEEN EXCESSIVE DISCRETION AND DETERMINATION TO UPHOLD RIGHT OF CONGEN OFFICER TO MAINTAIN LEGITIMATE CONTACT WITH SOVIET CITIZEN IN FACE OF CRUDE PRESSURE TACTICS.

9. I BELIEVE REITERATED APPROACH TO SOVIET AUTHORITIES ON CLYATT HARRASSMENT IS WARRANTED. MOST APPROPRIATE VENUE FOR SUCH APPROACH WOULD APPEAR TO BE IN MOSCOW, BUT I WOULD PROPOSE TO SUPPORT IT HERE WITH PERSONAL CALL ON HEAD OF DIPLOMATIC AGENCY AND PRESENTATION OF A NON-PAPER.
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